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Sixty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 23 (b)
Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Mr. Tauhedul Islam (Bangladesh), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/67/L.2

Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Almaty Declaration[1] and the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[2]

Recalling also its resolutions 58/201 of 23 December 2003, 60/208 of 22 December 2005, 61/212 of 20 December 2006, 62/204 of 19 December 2007, 63/228 of 19 December 2008, 64/214 of 21 December 2009, 65/172 of 20 December 2010 and 66/214 of 22 December 2011,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3]

[1] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex II.

[2] Ibid., annex I.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

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Recalling the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[4]

Recalling also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in 2012, entitled "The future we want",[5]

Recalling further its resolution 63/2 of 3 October 2008, by which it adopted the Declaration of the high-level meeting of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action,

Taking note of the Almaty Ministerial Declaration adopted at the Fourth Meeting of Trade Ministers of Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 12 September 2012,[6]

Taking note also of the outcome documents of the thirteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Doha from 21 to 26 April 2012, and of the Ministerial Communiqué of the Landlocked Developing Countries adopted within the framework of that session,

Taking note further of the communiqué of the Eleventh Annual Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters on 26 September 2012,[7]

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets, and high transit costs and risks continue to impose serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and domestic resource mobilization of landlocked developing countries and therefore adversely affect their overall growth and socioeconomic development,

Recognizing also that the primary responsibility for establishing effective transit systems rests with landlocked and transit developing countries,

Reaffirming that the Almaty Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for genuine partnerships between landlocked and transit developing countries and their development partners at the national, bilateral, subregional, regional and global levels,

Recalling its resolution 66/214 of 22 December 2011, in which it decided to hold a comprehensive ten-year review conference on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action in 2014, which should be preceded, where necessary, by regional and global as well as thematic preparations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries";[8]

2. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit countries by all means of transport, in accordance with the applicable rules of international law;

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[4] See resolution 65/1.
[5] Resolution 66/288, annex.
[6] A/67/386, annex.
[7] A/67/495, annex.
[8] A/67/210.

3. *Also reaffirms* that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

4. *Calls upon* landlocked and transit developing countries to take all appropriate measures, as set out in the Declaration of the high-level meeting of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action,[9] to speed up the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, and calls upon landlocked developing countries to take greater ownership of the Almaty Programme of Action by further mainstreaming it into their national development strategies;

5. *Calls upon* development partners and multilateral and regional financial and development institutions to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with appropriate, substantial and better-coordinated technical and financial assistance, particularly in the form of grants or concessionary loans, for the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;[2]

6. *Reaffirms its full commitment* to urgently address the special development needs of and the challenges faced by landlocked developing countries through the full, timely and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, as contained in the Declaration on the midterm review;

7. *Invites* Member States, including development partners, organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, to speed up further the implementation of the specific actions in the five priorities agreed upon in the Almaty Programme of Action and those contained in the Declaration on the midterm review, in a better-coordinated manner, in particular for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes, completion of missing links and improved communications and energy infrastructure, so as to enhance intraregional connectivity, and strengthen analytical capacities to assist in the development and implementation of coherent and comprehensive transport policies to support the transit corridors needed to facilitate trade, and in this regard encourages enhanced regional, subregional and bilateral cooperation which offers more appropriate, direct and effective solutions in addressing landlocked and transit country issues;

8. *Expresses concern* that the economic growth and social well-being of landlocked developing countries remain highly vulnerable to external shocks and to the multiple challenges faced by the international community, and invites the international community to assist landlocked developing countries in strengthening their resilience and in protecting the advances made towards the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and the priorities of the Almaty Programme of Action;

9. *Encourages* the relevant international organizations, including the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, and the United Nations regional commissions, as well as relevant research institutions, to assist the

[9] See resolution 63/2.

landlocked developing countries, as appropriate, in undertaking research on the vulnerability of landlocked developing countries to external shocks, through the development of a set of vulnerability indicators that can be used by the landlocked developing countries for early warning purposes;

10. *Underlines* the importance of international trade and trade facilitation as one of the priorities of the Almaty Programme of Action, notes that the ongoing negotiations of the World Trade Organization on trade facilitation are particularly important for landlocked developing countries to gain a more efficient flow of goods and services as well as improved international competitiveness resulting from lower transaction costs, and calls upon the international community to ensure that the agreement on trade facilitation in the final outcome of the Doha Round fulfils the objective of lowering transaction costs by, inter alia, reducing transport time and enhancing certainty in transborder trade;

11. *Calls upon* development partners to effectively implement the Aid for Trade initiative, giving adequate consideration to the special needs and requirements of landlocked developing countries, including capacity-building for the formulation of trade policies, participation in trade negotiations and implementation of trade facilitation measures, as well as the diversification of export products through private-sector involvement, including the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, with a view to increasing the competitiveness of the products of landlocked developing countries in export markets;

12. *Recognizes* that the economies of many landlocked developing countries are still reliant on a few export commodities, which often have low value addition, and encourages the international community to enhance efforts to support landlocked developing countries in diversifying their economic base, to encourage, on mutually agreed terms, the transfer of technologies related to transit transport systems, including information and communications technology, and to enhance value addition to their exports through the development of their productive capacities;

13. *Encourages* the further strengthening of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, as well as cooperation among subregional and regional organizations, in support of the efforts of landlocked and transit developing countries towards achieving the full and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;

14. *Underlines* the prominent role that foreign direct investment plays in accelerating development and poverty reduction through employment, the transfer of managerial and technological know-how and non-debt-creating flows of capital, recognizes the considerable role and potential of private-sector involvement in infrastructure development for transport, telecommunications and utilities for landlocked developing countries, and in this regard encourages Member States to facilitate foreign direct investment flows to landlocked developing countries and calls upon landlocked and transit developing countries to promote an enabling environment to attract foreign direct investment and private-sector involvement;

15. *Recognizes* that broader and more effective cooperation among landlocked developing countries and between landlocked and transit developing countries is necessary to ensure a harmonized approach to the design, implementation and monitoring of trade and transport facilitation policy reforms

across borders, and in this regard encourages landlocked and transit developing countries to ratify and effectively implement, as appropriate, international conventions and agreements and regional and subregional agreements on transport and trade facilitation;

16. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, and invites other international organizations, including the World Bank, the regional development banks, the World Customs Organization, the World Trade Organization, regional economic integration organizations and other relevant regional and subregional organizations, to further integrate the Almaty Programme of Action into their relevant programmes of work, taking full account of the Declaration on the midterm review, and encourages them to continue, as appropriate, within their respective mandates, their support to landlocked and transit developing countries, through, inter alia, well-coordinated and coherent technical assistance programmes in transit transport and trade facilitation;

17. *Welcomes* the efforts made by Member States, including development partners, and the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, in providing infrastructure development and connectivity and the integration of regional rail and road networks and in strengthening the legal frameworks of landlocked and transit developing countries, encourages them to continue providing their support, and in this regard welcomes the ongoing efforts made by the Office of the High Representative and the Economic Commission for Africa, in cooperation with the African Union Commission and other relevant international and regional organizations, towards assisting in the elaboration of the intergovernmental agreement on the Trans-African Highway;

18. *Urges* those landlocked developing countries that have not yet done so to accede to or to ratify, at their earliest convenience, the Multilateral Agreement for the Establishment of an International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries in order to bring the think tank to full operation, and invites the Office of the High Representative and relevant organizations of the United Nations system, Member States, including development partners, and relevant international and regional organizations to support the think tank so that it can undertake its role;

19. *Takes note* of the outcome of the high-level global thematic meeting on international trade, trade facilitation and aid for trade, held in Almaty on 13 and 14 September 2012, as part of the preparatory process for the comprehensive ten-year review conference on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;

20. *Decides* to convene, as called for by the General Assembly in paragraph 21 of its resolution 66/214, a comprehensive ten-year Review Conference on the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, in 2014, at the highest possible level, for a duration of three days, in the most cost-effective manner, at a venue and time to be determined in consultation with the host Government, with the following mandate:

(a) To undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;

(b) To identify effective international, regional, subregional and domestic policies in the area of international trade and transit transport cooperation and to review the current situation of transit transport systems in the light of new and emerging challenges, partnerships and opportunities and the means to address them;

(c) To reaffirm the global commitment to addressing the special development needs of and the challenges faced by the landlocked developing countries as called for at major United Nations conferences and summits;

(d) To mobilize international support and action by and in favour of the landlocked developing countries and formulate and adopt a renewed development partnership framework for the next decade;

21. *Also decides* that the sessions of the intergovernmental preparatory committee envisaged by the General Assembly in paragraph 22 of its resolution 66/214 will be held in New York in January 2014 and April 2014, each for a duration of two working days, in the most cost-effective manner;

22. *Requests* the Office of the High Representative, as the United Nations system-wide focal point for the preparations for the ten-year Review Conference, pursuant to resolution 66/214, to ensure effective, efficient and timely preparations for the Conference and to further mobilize and coordinate the active involvement of the organizations of the United Nations system;

23. *Requests* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, and invites other international organizations, including the World Bank, the regional development banks, the World Customs Organization, the World Trade Organization, the International Road Transport Union, regional economic integration organizations and other relevant regional and subregional organizations, within their respective mandates, to provide necessary support and actively contribute to the preparatory process and to the Conference itself;

24. *Invites* Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups and other donors to contribute to the Trust Fund established by the Secretary-General to support the activities related to the follow-up to the implementation of the outcome of the Almaty International Ministerial Conference and the participation of representatives of the landlocked developing countries in both the preparatory process and the Conference itself;

25. *Recognizes* the importance of the contributions and participation of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to the Conference and its preparatory process;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of concerned organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Office of the High Representative, to take the necessary measures to intensify their public information efforts and other appropriate initiatives to enhance public awareness in favour of the Conference, including by highlighting its objectives and its significance;

27. *Requests* the executive secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, in close coordination and cooperation with the Office of the High Representative, to provide the necessary substantive and organizational arrangements and to organize the preparatory review meetings at the regional level in 2013;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of

Action and on the progress made in the preparatory process for the ten-year Review Conference;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Groups of countries in special situations", a sub-item entitled "Comprehensive ten-year Review Conference on the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action".

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Agenda item 20 (b)
Sustainable development: follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee, Aida Hodžić (Bosnia and Herzegovina), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/67/L.19

Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados[1] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[2] the Mauritius Declaration[3] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[5] including chapter VII on the sustainable development of small island developing States,

Recalling the outcome document of the high-level review meeting on the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the

[1] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

[5] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

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Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[6] held in New York on 24 and 25 September 2010,

Recalling also its resolution 66/198 of 22 December 2011 and all its previous resolutions on the subject,

Reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[7] including the call for the convening in 2014 of a third international conference on small island developing States and the invitation to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session to determine the modalities of the conference,

Recalling that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the primary intergovernmental forum for monitoring the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy, while recognizing that the institutional framework for sustainable development is currently evolving,

Reaffirming that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities, including their small size, remoteness, narrow resource and export base and exposure to global environmental challenges and external economic shocks, including to a large range of impacts from climate change and potentially more frequent and intense natural disasters, noting with concern that the outcome of the five-year review of the Mauritius Strategy concluded that small island developing States have made less progress than most other groupings, or have even regressed, in economic terms, especially in terms of poverty reduction and debt sustainability and that sea level rise and other adverse impacts of climate change continue to pose a significant risk to small island developing States and their efforts to achieve sustainable development and, for many, represent the gravest of threats to their survival and viability, including for some through loss of territory, and remains concerned that, while small island developing States have made progress in the areas of gender, health, education and the environment, their overall progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals has been uneven,

Recognizing the need to promote the development of regional and national capacities for disaster risk reduction, including by strengthening risk assessments and early warning systems, as well as the reconstruction and rehabilitation of areas affected by natural disasters, including through the further implementation of the internationally agreed framework for disaster risk reduction, the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[8]

Taking note of the Leaders' Declaration adopted at the meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the Alliance of Small Island States, held in New York on 27 September 2012,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the five-year review of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of

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[6] See resolution 65/2.

[7] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[8] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[9] the review of United Nations system support to small island developing States[10] and the concrete recommendations to enhance the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[11]

2. *Reaffirms* the commitment to take urgent and concrete action to address the vulnerability of small island developing States, including through the sustained implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy, and underscores the urgency of finding additional solutions to the major challenges facing small island developing States in a concerted manner so as to support them in sustaining the momentum realized in implementing the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy and achieving sustainable development;

3. *Reaffirms* the decision to convene in 2014 the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States as called for in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to build on the Barbados Programme of Action, the Mauritius Strategy and chapter VII of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation regarding small island developing States, recognizing the importance of coordinated, balanced and integrated actions to address the sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States;

4. *Welcomes* the offer of the Government of Samoa to host the International Conference on Small Island Developing States in 2014;

5. *Decides* that the Conference should:

(a) Assess the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy, building on, inter alia, existing reports and relevant processes;

(b) Seek a renewed political commitment by all countries to address effectively the special needs and vulnerabilities of small island developing States by focusing on practical and pragmatic actions for the further implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and Mauritius Strategy, inter alia, through mobilization of resources and assistance for small island developing States;

(c) Identify new and emerging challenges and opportunities for the sustainable development of small island developing States and ways and means to address them, including through the strengthening of collaborative partnerships between small island developing States and the international community;

(d) Identify priorities for the sustainable development of small island developing States for consideration, as appropriate, in the elaboration of the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015;

6. *Acknowledges* that small island developing States have demonstrated their commitment to promoting sustainable development and, to that effect, have mobilized resources at the national and regional levels despite their limited resource base, and welcomes the long-standing cooperation and support provided by the

[9] A/65/115.
[10] A/66/218.
[11] A/66/278.

international community, which has played an important role in helping small island developing States to make progress in addressing their vulnerabilities and in supporting their sustainable development efforts;

7. *Calls for* continued and enhanced efforts to assist small island developing States in implementing the Barbados Programme of Action and Mauritius Strategy and for strengthening the United Nations system support to small island developing States in keeping with the multiple ongoing and emerging challenges faced by these States in achieving sustainable development;

8. *Stresses* the importance of continued substantive consideration of the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy;

9. *Decides* to convene in 2013 a regional preparatory meeting in each of the three regions of small island developing States,[12] as well as an interregional preparatory meeting for all small island developing States, to identify and develop input for the Conference, while maximizing coherence and complementarity with respect to other preparatory work;

10. *Also decides* that the Conference will result in a concise, focused, forward-looking and action-oriented political document;

11. *Further decides* that the national, regional, interregional and substantive preparations should be carried out in a most effective, well-structured and broad participatory manner and that, for this purpose, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, through its Small Island Developing States Unit, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, within their respective mandates and available resources, should provide the necessary support to the Conference and its preparatory process;

12. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to launch the work of the intergovernmental preparatory process at the end of 2013 to consider the governance structure as well as other organizational matters related to the preparatory committee, and to convene the first meeting of the preparatory committee early in 2014;

13. *Decides* to consider further at its sixty-eighth session, before the end of 2013, the modalities and format of the Conference and how it can be organized in the most efficient and effective manner;

14. *Agrees* that the Conference will be convened at the highest possible level and will include a high-level segment;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all appropriate support to the work of the preparatory process of the Conference and to the Conference itself and to ensure interagency cooperation and effective participation and coherence within the United Nations system, as well as the efficient use of resources, so that the objectives of the Conference can be addressed;

16. *Decides* that the Conference and its preparatory committee shall be open to all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, that the rules of procedure of

[12] Atlantic, Indian Ocean and South China Sea; Caribbean; and Pacific.

the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, as well as the supplementary arrangements established for the Commission on Sustainable Development by the Council in its decisions 1993/215 of 12 February 1993 and 1995/201 of 8 February 1995, shall apply to the meetings of the preparatory committee, and that the preparatory committee shall consider and adopt the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference taking into consideration the established practice of the General Assembly and its conferences;

17. *Invites* relevant stakeholders, including organizations and bodies of the United Nations, international financial institutions and major groups identified in Agenda 21[13] to participate as observers in the Conference and the meetings of the preparatory committee;

18. *Calls for* the participation of associate members of the regional commissions in the Conference and the meetings of the preparatory committee, in the same capacity specified for their participation in the global conferences on the sustainable development of small island developing States held in 1994 and 2005;

19. *Calls on* the Secretary-General to appoint a Secretary-General for the Conference at the earliest possible time;

20. *Urges* international and bilateral donors as well as the private sector, financial institutions, foundations and other donors in a position to do so, to support the preparations for the Conference through voluntary contributions to the trust fund in support of preparations for the Conference and to support the participation of representatives of developing countries, with priority given to small island developing States, including coverage of economy class air tickets, daily subsistence allowances and terminal expenses, and invites voluntary contributions to support the participation of developing countries in the regional and international preparatory processes and the Conference itself;

21. *Stresses* the need for the effective participation of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations and other major groups, and invites voluntary contributions to support the participation of major groups of developing countries, in particular small island developing States, in the regional and international preparatory processes and the Conference itself;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States";

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[13] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

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Agenda item 20 (b)
Sustainable development: follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee, Aida Hodžić (Bosnia and Herzegovina), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/67/L.5

Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados,[2] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[4] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[5] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[6] as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

[1] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] See *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] Resolution 66/288, annex.

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Recalling the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,[7]

Taking into account all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999, 55/203 of 20 December 2000, 57/261 of 20 December 2002, 59/230 of 22 December 2004, 61/197 of 20 December 2006, 63/214 of 19 December 2008 and 65/155 of 20 December 2010,

Taking into account also the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[8]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[9]

Recalling also the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 24 March 1983,[10] and the protocols thereto, which contain the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[11] which provides the legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

Recalling the Convention on Biological Diversity[12] and other biodiversity-related conventions, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora[13] and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat,[14]

Emphasizing the importance of national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector as recognized by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[15]

Recalling the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization,

Considering that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States that are ecologically fragile and socially and economically vulnerable and are also affected, inter alia, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, high levels of poverty and the resulting

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[7] Resolution S-22/2, annex.

[8] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[9] See resolution 60/1.

[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1506, No. 25974.

[11] Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[12] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[13] Ibid., vol. 993, No. 14537.

[14] Ibid., vol. 996, No. 14583.

[15] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

social problems, and the challenges and opportunities of globalization and trade liberalization,

Recognizing that the Caribbean Sea has unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystems,

Recognizing also that the Caribbean has been shown to be the most tourism-dependent region in the world relative to its size,

Noting that the Caribbean Sea, when compared to all other large marine ecosystems, is surrounded by the largest number of countries in the world,

Emphasizing that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change, climate variability and associated phenomena, such as the rise in sea level, the El Niño phenomenon and the increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes,

Bearing in mind the heavy reliance of most of the Caribbean economies on their coastal areas, as well as on the marine environment in general, to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals,

Acknowledging that the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea for maritime transport, as well as the considerable number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national jurisdiction where Caribbean countries exercise their rights and duties under international law, present a challenge for the effective management of resources,

Noting the problem of marine pollution caused, inter alia, by land-based sources and the continuing threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and sewage, as well as from the accidental release of hazardous and noxious substances in the Caribbean Sea area,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on safety of transport of radioactive materials,

Mindful of the diversity and dynamic interaction and competition among socioeconomic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources,

Mindful also of the efforts of the Caribbean countries to address in a more holistic manner the sectoral issues relating to the management of the wider Caribbean Sea region and, in so doing, to promote integrated management of the wider Caribbean Sea region in the context of sustainable development, through a regional cooperative effort among Caribbean countries,

Welcoming the continued efforts of the States members of the Association of Caribbean States to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, and recognizing in this regard the firm commitment by Heads of State and Government of the Association to take the steps necessary to ensure the recognition of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, without prejudice to relevant international law,

Recalling the creation by the Association of Caribbean States of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and welcoming its ongoing work,

Cognizant of the importance of the Caribbean Sea to present and future generations and to the heritage and the continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area and of the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

1. *Recognizes* that the Caribbean Sea is an area of unique biodiversity and a highly fragile ecosystem that requires relevant regional and international development partners to work together to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, including the consideration of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such without prejudice to international law;

2. *Notes* the efforts of the Caribbean States and the work undertaken by the Caribbean Sea Commission of the Association of Caribbean States, including the development of their concept of the designation of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, and invites the international community to support such efforts;

3. *Welcomes* the plan of action adopted by the Caribbean Sea Commission, including its scientific and technical components and its governance and outreach components, and invites the international community and the United Nations system to enhance support, including financial, technical and capacity-building assistance, as appropriate, to Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to implement the plan of action;

4. *Also welcomes* the resources provided by some donors to support the work of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and invites the international community to continue and to enhance its support, as appropriate, to the Commission, including through the provision of financial resources, capacity-building and technical support, the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and the sharing of experience in the areas of work of the Commission;

5. *Recognizes* the efforts of Caribbean countries to create conditions leading to sustainable development aimed at combating poverty and inequality, and in this regard notes with interest the initiatives of the Association of Caribbean States in the focal areas of sustainable tourism, trade, transport and natural disasters;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to assist, as appropriate, Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, and pollution from the illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities;

7. *Invites* the Association of Caribbean States to submit to the Secretary-General a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

8. *Calls upon* all States to become parties to relevant international agreements to enhance maritime safety and to promote the protection of the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from pollution, damage and degradation from ships and ship-generated waste;

9. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the Special Area designation for the wider Caribbean region under annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, which entered into force in May 2011;

10. *Supports* the efforts of Caribbean countries to implement sustainable fisheries management programmes and to meet the principles of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;[16]

11. *Calls upon* States, taking into consideration the Convention on Biological Diversity,[12] to develop national, regional and international programmes to halt the loss of marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Sea, in particular fragile ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves;

12. *Invites* Member States and intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system to continue their efforts to assist Caribbean countries in becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols concerning the management, protection and sustainable utilization of Caribbean Sea resources and in implementing those conventions and protocols effectively;

13. *Calls upon* the international community, the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions, and invites the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to support actively the national and regional activities of the Caribbean States towards the promotion of the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources;

14. *Expresses deep concern* about the severe destruction and devastation caused to several countries by heightened hurricane activity in the wider Caribbean region in recent years;

15. *Takes note with appreciation* of the ongoing activities of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions, of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and invites Member States and other partners to support early warning systems in the region;

16. *Urges* the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide aid and assistance to the countries of the Caribbean region in the implementation of their long-term programmes of disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, management, relief and recovery, on the basis of their development priorities, through the integration of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction into a comprehensive approach to sustainable development;

17. *Acknowledges* the pivotal role of the Association of Caribbean States in regional dialogue and in the consolidation of a wider Caribbean cooperation zone in the field of disaster risk reduction, as well as the importance of the international

[16] *International Fisheries Instruments with Index* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. III.

community in deepening existing cooperation and consolidating new initiatives with that regional mechanism in the context of the outcomes of the High-level Conference on Disaster Reduction of the Association of Caribbean States, held in Saint-Marc, Haiti, from 14 to 16 November 2007, and the plan of action approved by the Ministerial Council of the Association upon the recommendation of the Conference;

18. *Invites* Member States, international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to consider training programmes for the development of a human resources capacity at different levels and to develop research aimed at enhancing the food security of Caribbean countries, as well as the sustainable management of renewable marine and coastal resources;

19. *Calls upon* Member States to improve, as a matter of priority, their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage, particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, under the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" of the item entitled "Sustainable development", on the implementation of the present resolution, including a section on the possible legal and financial implications of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such without prejudice to relevant international law, taking into account the views expressed by Member States and relevant regional organizations.

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General Assembly

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Sixty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20 (b)
Sustainable development: follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee, Aida Hodžić (Bosnia and Herzegovina), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/67/L.7

International Year of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados[1] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[2] the Mauritius Declaration[3] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[4] chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[5] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[6] including chapter VII on the sustainable development of small island developing States,

[1] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

[5] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[6] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

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Recalling the outcome document of the High-level Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[7] General Assembly resolutions 65/156 of 20 December 2010 and 66/198 of 22 December 2011 and all its other previous resolutions on the subject,

Recalling also the outcome document entitled "The future we want" of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[8] adopted by the General Assembly on 27 July 2012, recognizing the importance of coordinated, balanced and integrated actions to address the sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States,

Reaffirming Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

1. *Decides* to declare 2014 the International Year of Small Island Developing States;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in consultation with relevant agencies within the United Nations system and mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to facilitate the implementation of the Year, and stresses that the costs of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution above and beyond activities currently within their mandates should be met through voluntary contributions;

3. *Encourages* all Member States, the United Nations system and all other stakeholders to take advantage of the Year to promote actions at all levels, including through international, regional and subregional cooperation, as appropriate, aimed at the achievement of sustainable development of small island developing States;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his annual report on the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, to report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session on the implementation of the present resolution, inter alia, elaborating on the evaluation of the Year, including its financial aspects.

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[7] See resolution 65/2.

[8] Resolution 66/288, annex.

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Sixty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20 (d)
Sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

Draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee, Aida Hodžić (Bosnia and Herzegovina), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/67/L.20

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988, 54/222 of 22 December 1999, 62/86 of 10 December 2007, 63/32 of 26 November 2008, 64/73 of 7 December 2009, 65/159 of 20 December 2010 and 66/200 of 22 December 2011 and other resolutions and decisions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of humankind,

Recalling also the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[1] including the acknowledgement that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and social and economic conditions,

Acknowledging that the developed country parties must take the lead in combating climate change and its adverse effects,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[3] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[2] Resolution 55/2.
[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

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Implementation"),[4] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[5] the outcome of the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention and of the third session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 3 to 15 December 2007,[6] and the outcomes of all the sessions, the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[7] the Mauritius Declaration[8] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[9] the political declaration on Africa's development needs[10] and the New Partnership for Africa's Development[11] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011,[12]

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[13]

Reaffirming its commitment to the ultimate objective of the Convention, namely, to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that prevents dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system, and also reaffirming that such a level should be achieved within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner,

Reaffirming also the financial obligations of developed country parties and other developed parties included in annex II to the Convention under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol,

Reaffirming further that the Convention has a key role in addressing climate change,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the outcome of the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and of the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties serving

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[4] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[5] Resolution 60/1.

[6] FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1 and 2 and FCCC/KP/CMP/2007/9/Add.1 and 2.

[7] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[8] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[9] Ibid., annex II.

[10] Resolution 63/1.

[11] Resolution 57/2.

[12] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 11.II.A.1), chap. II.

[13] Resolution 66/288, annex.

as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, hosted in Durban, South Africa, by the Government of South Africa from 28 November to 11 December 2011;[14]

2. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, expresses profound alarm that the emission of greenhouse gases continues to rise globally, remains deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and are already experiencing increased impacts, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, sea level rise, coastal erosion and ocean acidification, further threatening food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and in this regard emphasizes that adaptation to climate change represents an immediate and urgent global priority;

3. *Recognizes* the need to build on the existing political momentum with a view to achieving the ultimate objective of the Convention and to further advancing climate change negotiations;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Durban and its follow-up;[15]

5. *Notes with appreciation* that the Government of Qatar will host the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol in Doha from 26 November to 7 December 2012;

6. *Encourages* Member States to approach the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Doha with a view to achieving an ambitious, substantive and balanced outcome, building on the progress made through the Bali Action Plan[16] and the Cancun and Durban decisions, accelerating progress towards the full implementation of those decisions through the ongoing negotiations at the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, consistent with the mandates of and decisions on the three tracks of negotiations, and further developing and implementing the new processes and institutions agreed in the Cancun and Durban decisions;

7. *Notes* the significant political momentum towards adopting the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol as a key deliverable at the forthcoming United Nations Climate Change Conference in Doha;

8. *Takes note* of the decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its seventeenth session to launch a process to develop a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all parties, through a subsidiary body under the Convention known as the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action;[17]

9. *Also takes note* of the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall complete its work as early as possible, but no later than 2015, in order to adopt the protocol, legal instrument or

[14] FCCC/CP/2011/9/Add.1 and 2 and FCCC/KP/CMP/2011/10/Add.1 and 2.
[15] A/67/295, sect. I.
[16] FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1, decision 1/CP.13.
[17] FCCC/CP/2011/9/Add.1, decision 1/CP.17.

agreed outcome with legal force at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties and for it to come into effect in and be implemented as from 2020;[17]

10. *Further takes note* of the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall plan its work in the first half of 2012, including, inter alia, on mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, transparency of action, and support and capacity-building, drawing upon submissions from parties and relevant technical, social and economic information and expertise;[17]

11. *Takes note* of the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to launch a workplan on enhancing mitigation ambition to identify and explore options for a range of actions that can close the ambition gap, with a view to ensuring the highest possible mitigation efforts by all parties;[17]

12. *Recognizes* the need to engage a broad range of stakeholders at the global, regional, national and local levels, including national, subnational and local governments, private businesses and civil society, and including youth and persons with disabilities, and that gender equality and the effective participation of women and indigenous peoples are important for effective action on all aspects of climate change;

13. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the work of the Conference of the Parties;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make provisions for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its subsidiary bodies in his proposal for the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind".

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Sixty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20 (g)
Sustainable development: report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session

Draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee, Aida Hodžić (Bosnia and Herzegovina), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/67/L.21

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session and on the implementation of section IV.C entitled "Environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development" of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the mandate contained in resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 which established the United Nations Environment Programme, and other relevant resolutions that reinforce its mandate, as well as the 1997 Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme of 7 February 1997[1] and the Malmö Ministerial Declaration of 31 May 2000,[2]

Recalling its resolutions 53/242 of 28 July 1999, 55/200 of 20 December 2000, 57/251 of 20 December 2002, 64/204 of 21 December 2009, 65/162 of 20 December 2010, 66/203 of 22 December 2011 and other previous resolutions relating to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Reaffirming its commitment to strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex, decision 19/1, annex.
[2] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/55/25), annex I, decision SS.VI/1, annex.

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environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment,

Taking into account Agenda 21[3] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[4]

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[5] and its principles,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[6]

Recalling also the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,[7]

Committed to strengthening international environmental governance within the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development in order to promote a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development as well as coordination within the United Nations system,

Recalling the outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[8] of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held from 20 to 22 June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in which the Heads of State and Government and high-level representatives invited the General Assembly to adopt, at its sixty-seventh session, a resolution strengthening and upgrading the United Nations Environment Programme, in the manner outlined in paragraph 88, subparagraphs (a) to (h) of the outcome document,

Recalling also paragraph 89 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, in which parties to multilateral environmental agreements were encouraged to consider further measures, in the chemicals and waste cluster and other clusters, as appropriate, to promote policy coherence at all relevant levels, improve efficiency, reduce unnecessary overlap and duplication and enhance coordination and cooperation among the multilateral environmental agreements, including the three Rio conventions, as well as with the United Nations system in the field,

Reiterating the need for secure, stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme, and, in accordance with its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, underlining the need to consider the adequate reflection of all the administrative and management costs of the Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget,

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[3] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[5] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[6] Resolution 60/1.

[7] UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex.

[8] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Reiterating also that capacity-building and technology support to developing countries in environment-related fields are important components of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session and the decisions contained therein;[9]

2. *Reiterates* the continuing need for the United Nations Environment Programme to conduct up-to-date, comprehensive, scientifically credible and policy-relevant global environment assessments, in close consultation with Member States, in order to support decision-making processes at all levels, takes note in this regard the fifth report in the Global Environment Outlook series and its related summary[10] for policymakers, and stresses the need to enhance the policy relevance of the Outlook by, inter alia, identifying policy options to speed up the achievement of the internationally agreed goals and to inform global and regional processes and meetings where progress towards the agreed goals are discussed;

3. *Also reiterates* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of the United Nations Environment Programme, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to the Programme and to the other United Nations organizations and entities in Nairobi;

4. *Decides*:

(a) To strengthen and upgrade the United Nations Environment Programme in the manner set out in subparagraphs (a) to (h) of paragraph 88 of the outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[8] of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012;

(b) To establish universal membership in the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, and mandate it, at its first universal session to be held in Nairobi in February 2013, using its applicable rules of procedure and applicable rules and practices of the General Assembly, pending the adoption of its new rules of procedure, to expeditiously initiate the implementation of the provisions of paragraph 88 of the outcome document[8] in their entirety, to make a recommendation on its designation reflecting its universal character and to decide on future arrangements for the Global Ministerial Environment Forum;

(c) To request the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to provide support for the full and effective participation of representatives of developing countries in the Governing Council meeting and to invite the Governing Council to consider further arrangements in this regard;

5. *Recalls* the decision to have secure, stable, adequate and increased financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations and voluntary contributions to fulfil the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, and decides:

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[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/67/25).

[10] United Nations Environment Programme, *Global Environmental Outlook 5: Environment for the Future We Want* (Nairobi, 2012).

(a) To request the Secretary-General, in line with paragraph 88 (b) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[8] to reflect in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 resources that take into account the proposed revised programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme and the implementation of subparagraphs (a) to (h) of paragraph 88 of the outcome document, as well as opportunities for increasing the efficient use of resources;

(b) To urge donors to increase voluntary funding to the United Nations Environment Programme, including to the Environment Fund;

(c) To request the Secretary-General to keep under review the resource needs of the United Nations Environment Programme from the regular budget of the United Nations, in the light of the implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document, in accordance with United Nations budgetary practices;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its first universal session".

United Nations A/C.2/67/L.44*

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Sixty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20 (g)
Sustainable development: report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session

Draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee, Aida Hodžić (Bosnia and Herzegovina), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/67/L.21

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session and on the implementation of section IV.C entitled "Environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development" of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the mandate contained in resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 which established the United Nations Environment Programme, and other relevant resolutions that reinforce its mandate, as well as the 1997 Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme of 7 February 1997[1] and the 2000 Malmö Ministerial Declaration of 31 May 2000,[2]

Recalling its resolutions 53/242 of 28 July 1999, 55/200 of 20 December 2000, 57/251 of 20 December 2002, 64/204 of 21 December 2009, 65/162 of 20 December 2010, 66/203 of 22 December 2011 and other previous resolutions relating to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Reaffirming its commitment to strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the

* Reissued for technical reasons on 5 December 2012.

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex, decision 19/1, annex.

[2] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/55/25), annex I, decision SS.VI/1, annex.

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environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment,

Taking into account Agenda 21[3] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[4]

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[5] and its principles,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[6]

Recalling also the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,[7]

Committed to strengthening international environmental governance within the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development in order to promote a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development as well as coordination within the United Nations system,

Recalling the outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[8] of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held from 20 to 22 June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, which invited the General Assembly to adopt, at its sixty-seventh session, a resolution strengthening and upgrading the United Nations Environment Programme, in the manner outlined in paragraph 88, subparagraphs (a) to (h) of the outcome document,

Recalling also paragraph 89 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, encouraging parties to multilateral environmental agreements to consider further measures, in the chemicals and waste clusters and other clusters, as appropriate, to promote policy coherence at all relevant levels, improve efficiency, reduce unnecessary overlap and duplication and enhance coordination and cooperation among the multilateral environmental agreements, including the three Rio conventions, as well as with the United Nations system in the field,

Reiterating the need for secure, stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme, and, in accordance with its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, underlining the need to consider the adequate reflection of all the administrative and management costs of the Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget,

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[3] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[5] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[6] Resolution 60/1.

[7] UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex.

[8] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Reiterating also that capacity-building and technology support to developing countries in environment-related fields are important components of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session and the decisions contained therein;[9]

2. *Reiterates* the continuing need for the United Nations Environment Programme to conduct up-to-date, comprehensive, scientifically credible and policy-relevant global environmental assessments, in close consultation with Member States, in order to support decision-making processes at all levels, and in this regard takes note of the fifth report in the Global Environment Outlook series and its related summary for policymakers,[10] and stresses the need to enhance the policy relevance of the Outlook by, inter alia, identifying policy options to speed up the achievement of the internationally agreed goals and to inform global and regional processes and meetings where progress towards the agreed goals will be discussed;

3. *Also reiterates* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of the United Nations Environment Programme, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to the Programme and to the other United Nations organizations and entities in Nairobi;

4. *Decides* to:

(a) Strengthen and upgrade the United Nations Environment Programme in the manner set out in subparagraphs (a) to (h) of paragraph 88 of the outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[8] of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012;

(b) Establish universal membership in the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, and mandates it, as of its first universal session to be held in Nairobi in February 2013, using its applicable rules of procedure and applicable rules and practices of the General Assembly, pending the adoption of its new rules of procedure, to expeditiously initiate the implementation of the provisions contained in paragraph 88 of the outcome document[8] in its entirety; make a recommendation on its designation to reflect its universal character; and decide on future arrangements for the Global Ministerial Environment Forum;

(c) Request the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to provide support for the full and effective participation of representatives of developing countries in the Governing Council meeting and to invite the Governing Council to consider further arrangements in this regard;

5. *Recalls* the decision to have secure, stable, adequate and increased financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations and voluntary

[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/67/25).

[10] United Nations Environment Programme, *Global Environmental Outlook 5: Environment for the Future We Want* (Nairobi, 2012).

contributions to fulfil the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, and:

(a) Requests the Secretary-General, in line with paragraph 88 (b) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[8] to reflect in the 2014-2015 biennium budget proposal resources that take into account the proposed revised programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme and the implementation of paragraph 88, subparagraphs (a) to (h) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, as well as opportunities for increasing the efficient use of resources;

(b) Urges donors to increase voluntary funding to the United Nations Environment Programme, including to the Environment Fund;

(c) Requests the Secretary-General to maintain the resource needs from the regular budget of the United Nations for the United Nations Environment Programme under review, in the light of the implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document, in accordance with United Nations budgetary practices;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its first universal session".

United Nations A/C.2/67/L.45

General Assembly

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Sixty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20 (a)
Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee, Aida Hodžić (Bosnia and Herzegovina), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/67/L.18

Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 and 57/270 A of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 64/236 of 24 December 2009 and 65/152 of 20 December 2010, as well as its resolutions 66/197 of 22 December 2011 and 66/288 of 27 July 2012 and all other relevant resolutions on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

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Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5] the outcome document, entitled "The future we want", of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[6] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[7] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus[8] and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[9]

Recalling further the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[10] the Declaration and state of progress and initiatives for the future implementation of the Programme of Action,[11] the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[12] and the outcome document of the High-level Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[13]

Recognizing that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[14]

Reaffirming the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions,[15] and

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[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[7] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[8] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[9] Resolution 65/1.

[10] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[11] Resolution S-22/2, annex.

[12] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[13] Resolution 65/2.

[14] Resolution 55/2.

[15] See resolution 66/288, annex, para. 3.

reiterating that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities,[16]

Recognizing that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production, and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

Reaffirming the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals; and reaffirming also other internationally agreed goals in the economic, social and environmental fields since 1992, as well as the outcome document entitled "The future we want" of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming also the importance of freedom, peace and security, respect for all human rights, including the right to development and the right to an adequate standard of living, including the right to food, the rule of law, gender equality, women's empowerment and the overall commitment to just and democratic societies for development,

Reaffirming further that the Economic and Social Council is a principal body for policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on issues of economic and social development and for the follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals, and is a central mechanism for the coordination of the United Nations system and supervision of the subsidiary bodies of the Council, in particular its functional commissions, and for promoting the implementation of Agenda 21 by strengthening system-wide coherence and coordination, and reaffirming the major role the Council plays in the overall coordination of funds, programmes and specialized agencies, ensuring coherence among them and avoiding duplication of mandates and activities,

Recalling that the Commission on Sustainable Development has been serving as the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, and welcoming the decision to establish a universal, intergovernmental high-level political forum that would replace the Commission and to launch an intergovernmental and open, transparent and inclusive negotiation process under the General Assembly to define the format and organizational aspects of the high-level forum,

1. *Reaffirms* the outcome document, entitled "The future we want", of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[6] and urges its speedy implementation;

2. *Recalls* the commitment made at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to strengthen the Economic and Social Council within its mandate under the Charter of the United Nations as a principal organ in the integrated and coordinated follow-up of the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, recognizes its key role in achieving a balanced integration of the three dimensions

[16] See resolution 64/236.

of sustainable development, and in this regard looks forward to the review of the implementation of its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council;

3. *Also recalls* paragraphs 84 to 86 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, calls for the negotiation process under the General Assembly to define the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum to start in January 2013 at the latest and to aim to conclude by May 2013 so as to provide enough time to prepare the first high-level forum to be convened at the beginning of the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a focused and concise report on lessons learned from the Commission, compiling relevant existing information in consultation with Member States and benefiting from the inputs of major groups and other stakeholders, to inform the negotiations;

4. *Recommends* that the Commission on Sustainable Development hold its last session, which should be short and procedural, after the closure of negotiations on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum and immediately before the first high-level political forum, in order to ensure a smooth institutional transition;

5. *Welcomes* the adoption of the ten-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns[17] by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development; recalls that the United Nations Environment Programme serves, within its current mandate, as the secretariat of the ten-year framework, bearing in mind that the high-level political forum will replace the Commission, decides to designate the Economic and Social Council as the ad interim Member State body to receive reports from the board and secretariat as elaborated in the ten-year framework and to review this ad interim arrangement at its sixty-eighth session, also decides to establish a ten-member board consisting of two members from each United Nations regional group, further decides to nominate, no later than 31 January 2013, the members of the board for an initial two-year term, requests the secretariat of the ten-year framework to elaborate a proposal on the duration of the subsequent terms, to be considered by the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, also requests the United Nations Environment Programme to establish a trust fund for sustainable consumption and production programmes to mobilize voluntary contributions from multiple sources, including public/donor contributions, the private sector and other sources, including foundations, and invites Member States and other stakeholders to designate focal points for sustainable consumption and production;

6. *Recalls* paragraphs 245 to 251 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and reiterates that the open working group on sustainable development goals will submit its report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session and that reports on the progress of work of the open working group will be made regularly to the General Assembly, taking into account the convening of the first high-level political forum, without prejudice to the format and organizational aspects of the forum, and the special event in 2013 to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals;

[17] See A/CONF.216/5, annex.

7. *Also recalls* paragraphs 255 to 257 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, calls for the work of the intergovernmental committee established with a view to proposing options on an effective sustainable development financing strategy to start as soon as possible, preferably in January 2013, requests the intergovernmental committee to update the General Assembly on the progress of its work before the beginning of the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly, and in this regard stresses the need to reinforce coherence and coordination and to avoid a duplication of efforts with regard to the financing for development process;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on options for a facilitation mechanism that promotes the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies,[18] decides to hold a series of four one-day workshops on the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies and the connection between clean and environmentally sound technologies and sustainable development, taking into account the need to avoid duplication and promote synergies and coherence, invites the President of the General Assembly, supported by the Secretariat, to organize the workshops, decides that the workshops will discuss, inter alia, the technology needs of developing countries, options to address those needs, capacity-building and options for a technology facilitation mechanism, taking into account existing mechanisms, also decides that the workshops will be supported by the United Nations system and enable the involvement of other relevant stakeholders, and requests the Secretary-General to present a report for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the discussions, options and recommendations from the workshops, including on the way forward, as well as on additional inputs from Member States and the United Nations system;

9. *Stresses* the need for synergy, coherence and mutual support among all these processes and other processes that are also relevant for the post-2015 development agenda;

10. *Welcomes* the decision in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to convene in 2014 a third international conference on small island developing States and, in this regard, encourages the international community, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, and other relevant stakeholders to provide the necessary support to ensure the success of the Conference and its preparatory process;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution at its sixty-eighth session;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development".

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[18] A/67/348.

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Sixty-seventh session
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Agenda item 20
Sustainable development

Draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee, Aida Hodžić (Bosnia and Herzegovina), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/67/L.4

International Day of Forests

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/193 of 20 December 2006 on the International Year of Forests, 2011,

Noting the useful contribution of national, regional and international actions during the International Year to raising awareness at all levels in order to strengthen the sustainable management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests and trees outside forests for the benefit of current and future generations,

Considering that there is currently no globally recognized date for commemorating, carrying out activities on and raising awareness of forests and sustainable forest management beyond the Year,

Recognizing the many existing regional, national and subnational days and international events across the globe that celebrate and honour all types of forests and trees outside forests,

Noting the report of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on its thirty-seventh session,[1] and recalling Economic and Social Council decision 2011/250 of 27 July 2011,

Reaffirming Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on the proclamation of international years and anniversaries and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006,

Noting that the States members of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations supported the establishment of the World Forestry Day on

[1] See *Report of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Thirty-seventh Session, Rome, 25 June-2 July 2011* (C 2011/REP).

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21 March of each year at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 1971,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 21 March of each year the International Day of Forests, to be observed starting in 2013, in order to celebrate and raise awareness of the importance of all types of forests and of trees outside forests;

2. *Invites* all Member States to devote the International Day, as appropriate in the national context, to presenting and promoting concrete activities with regard to all types of forests and trees outside forests;

3. *Encourages* all Member States to organize activities related to all types of forests and trees outside forests, such as tree planting campaigns, at the time most appropriate to each State;

4. *Requests* the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests, in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to facilitate the implementation of the International Day, in collaboration with Governments, the Collaborative Partnerships on Forests and international, regional and subregional organizations and processes as well as relevant major groups, stresses that the costs of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions, subject to the availability and provision of voluntary contributions for this specific purpose, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventieth session, a focused and concise report on activities resulting from the implementation of the present resolution, which elaborates, inter alia, on the evaluation of the International Day of Forests.

United Nations A/C.2/67/L.47

General Assembly

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Sixty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20 (c)
Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee, Aida Hodžić (Bosnia and Herzegovina), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/67/L.6

International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/220 of 22 December 1999, 55/197 of 20 December 2000, 56/194 of 21 December 2001, 57/255 of 20 December 2002, 59/232 of 22 December 2004, 61/199 of 20 December 2006, 63/215 of 19 December 2008 and 65/158 of 20 December 2010 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000,

Noting that the El Niño phenomenon has a recurring character and can lead to extensive natural hazards with the potential to seriously affect humankind,

Reaffirming the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the damage caused by natural disasters resulting from the El Niño phenomenon,

Noting that technological developments and international cooperation have enhanced the capabilities for the prediction of the El Niño phenomenon and thereby the potential for the preventive actions that may be taken to reduce its negative impacts,

Taking into account the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development ("The future we want"),[1] the Johannesburg Declaration

[1] Resolution 66/288, annex.

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on Sustainable Development[2] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[3] in particular paragraph 37 (i) thereof,

Reaffirming the Hyogo Declaration[4] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[5]

Acknowledging the importance of the ongoing efforts to mainstream disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation across sustainable development efforts, including taking into account the future impacts of El Niño in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation activities,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction,[6] in particular the annex to the report, entitled "Update on international cooperation to reduce the impact of El Niño/La Niña", and calls upon the international community to make further efforts to assist countries affected by this phenomenon;

2. *Recognizes* the continued efforts being made by the Governments of Ecuador and Spain, the World Meteorological Organization and the inter-agency secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to support the International Research Centre on El Niño at Guayaquil, Ecuador, and encourages them and other members of the international community to continue such contributions for the advancement of the Centre;

3. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken so far to strengthen the International Research Centre on El Niño, through collaboration with international monitoring centres, including the national oceanographic institutions, and encourages further efforts to enhance regional and international recognition of and support for the Centre and to develop tools for decision makers and Government authorities for reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon;

4. *Notes* the contribution of the International Research Centre on El Niño as a reference centre on El Niño, including through developing a new climatic database for El Niño/Southern Oscillation-sensitive countries, carrying out applied research in climate change and vulnerability assessments in highlands, coastal zones and marine-protected and urban areas and providing professional training in the Americas, and encourages the sharing of best practices and lessons learned with climate centres located in other El Niño-affected regions;

5. *Recognizes* the technical and scientific support of the World Meteorological Organization, in producing regionally coordinated monthly and seasonal forecasts, in particular its establishment of a consensus mechanism for the development of updates on El Niño/La Niña conditions, which receives contributions from several climate centres, including the International Research Centre on El Niño;

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[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution, annex.

[3] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[4] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr. 1, chap. I, resolution 1.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2.

[6] A/67/335.

6. *Encourages* the World Meteorological Organization, in this regard, to continue to strengthen collaboration and the exchange of data and information with relevant institutions;

7. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, the relevant United Nations organs, funds and programmes, in particular those taking part in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and the international community to adopt, as appropriate, the measures necessary to further strengthen the International Research Centre on El Niño, and invites the international community to provide scientific, technical and financial assistance and cooperation for this purpose, as well as to strengthen, as appropriate, other centres devoted to the study of the El Niño phenomenon;

8. *Underlines* the importance of maintaining the El Niño/Southern Oscillation observation system, continuing research into extreme weather events, improving forecasting skills and developing appropriate policies for reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon and other extreme weather events, and emphasizes the need to further develop and strengthen these institutional capacities in all countries, in particular developing countries;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, under the sub-item entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction", a section on the implementation of the present resolution.